## Appendix A Environmental Checklist

This environmental checklist identifies physical, biological, social, and economic factors that may be affected by the proposed project. Since this project involves both state and/or federal funds, it is written to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [NEPA 40 CFR 1506.b, 1508.9 (b), PRC 21083 and 21087]. This checklist is not a NEPA requirement. The words "significant" and "significance" used throughout the checklist and subsequent discussion are related to CEQA, not NEPA, thresholds. It can be seen that having to address significant or potentially significant impacts in joint CEQA/NEPA environmental documents can be confusing especially in those instances where the two laws and implementing regulations have different thresholds of significance.

This document integrates CEQA and NEPA with other laws in order to avoid duplication and reduce delay in the evaluation of proposed actions.

This document describes why the project is being proposed, alternative methods for constructing the project, and the existing environment that could be affected by the project. Any needed CEQA/NEPA discussion is included in the section following the checklist. Generally, the background studies performed in connection with this project have been referenced for further clarification.

The technical studies prepared for this environmental analysis (listed in the Table of Contents) are available for review at the Caltrans North Region Environmental Management Office at 2389 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100, MS 15, Sacramento, CA 95833. Please contact Karen McWilliams at 916-274-0631 or karen mcwilliams@dot.ca.gov for more information.

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<ul><li>I. AESTHETICS—Would the project:</li><li>a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</li></ul>			X	
<ul><li>a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?</li><li>b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?</li></ul>			X	
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?			X	
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
II. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES—In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X
c) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				X
III. <b>AIR QUALITY</b> —Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?			X	
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?			X	
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?			X	
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X	

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?		X		
b) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?			X	
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				X
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				X
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X
V. <b>COMMUNITY RESOURCES</b> —Would the project:				
a. Affect life-styles, or neighborhood character or stability?				X
b. Physically divide an established community?				X
c. Affect minority, low-income, elderly, disabled, transit-dependent, or other specific interest group?				X
d. Affect employment, industry, or commerce, or require the displacement of businesses or farms?				X
e. Affect property values or the local tax base?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
f. Affect any community facilities (including medical, educational, scientific, or religious institutions, ceremonial sites or sacred shrines)?				X
g. Result in alterations to waterborne, rail, or air traffic?				X
h. Result in substantial impacts associated with construction activities (e.g. noise, dust, temporary drainage, traffic detours and temporary access, etc.)?			X	
VI. CULTURAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §15064.5?				X
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				X
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				X
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				X
VII. <b>GEOLOGY AND SOILS</b> —Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			X	
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?			X	
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?			X	
iv) Landslides?			X	
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?		X		

**Less Than** 

	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?			X	
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?				X
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				X
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS—Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?				X
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and collision conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				X
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				X
IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY—Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?				X
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?			X	
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner, which would result in flooding on- or off-site?				X
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				X
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				X
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X

**Less Than** 

		Potentially Significant Impact	Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				X
X.	LAND USE AND PLANNING—Would the project:				
a)	Physically divide an established community?				X
(inc plaa ado	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or ulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project cluding, but not limited to the general plan, specific n, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) pted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an ironmental effect?				X
	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan atural community conservation plan?				X
XI.	MINERAL RESOURCES—Would the project:				
resc	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral burce that would be of value to the region and the dents of the state?				X
min	Result in the loss of availability of a locally important eral resource recovery site delineated on a local eral plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X
XII	NOISE—Would the project result in:				
exc or n	Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in ess of standards established in the local general plan toise ordinance, or applicable standards of other noise?			X	
	Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive undborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?			X	
	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise els in the project vicinity above levels existing without project?			X	
aml	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in pient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels sting without the project?			X	
or, mil pro	For a project located within an airport land use plan where such a plan has not been adopted, within two es of a public airport or public use airport, would the ject expose people residing or working in the project a to excessive noise levels?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
XIII. <b>POPULATION AND HOUSING</b> —Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			X	
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			X	
XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES—Would the project:				
a) result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?				X
Police protection?				X
Schools?				X
Parks?				X
Other public facilities?				X
XV. <b>RECREATION</b> —Would the project:				
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				X
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. SECTION 4F—Would the project:				
a) Result in the use of any publicly owned land from a park, recreation area, or wildlife and waterfowl refuge, as defined by Section 4(f) (23 CFR 771.135)?				X
b) Affect a significant archaeological or historic site, structure, object, or building as defined by Section 4(f) (23 CFR 771.135)?				X
c) Involve construction use as defined by Section 4(f) (23 CFR 771.135)?				X
XVII. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC—Would the project	:			
a) Cause an increase in traffic, which is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?				X
b) Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				X
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				X
f) Result in inadequate parking capacity?				X
g) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X
XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS—Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?				X

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporation	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				X
c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				X
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				X
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				X
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?				X
XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE—				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?			X	
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?			X	
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?			X	